

UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT  
FOR THE DISTRICT OF RHODE ISLAND

**Federal Rule Bankruptcy Procedure 7016(b) Pretrial Conference Checklist**

**Pursuant to FRBP 7016(c), the following subjects are to be considered at the Pretrial Conference:**

- \_\_\_ 1. The formulation and simplification of the issues, including the elimination of frivolous claims or defenses;
- \_\_\_ 2. The necessity or desirability of amendments to the pleadings;
- \_\_\_ 3. The possibility of obtaining admissions of fact and of documents which will avoid unnecessary proof, stipulations regarding the authenticity of documents, and advance rulings from the court on the admissibility of evidence;
- \_\_\_ 4. The avoidance of unnecessary proof and of cumulative evidence, and limitations or restrictions on the use of testimony under Rule 702 of the Federal Rules of Evidence;
- \_\_\_ 5. The appropriateness and timing of summary adjudication under Rule 56;
- \_\_\_ 6. The control and scheduling of discovery, including orders affecting disclosures and discovery pursuant to Rule 26 and Rule 29 through 37;
- \_\_\_ 7. The identification of witnesses and documents, the need and schedule for filing and exchanging pretrial briefs, and the date or dates for further conferences and for trial;
- \_\_\_ 8. The advisability of referring matters to a magistrate judge or master;
- \_\_\_ 9. Settlement and the use of special procedures to assist in resolving the dispute when authorized by statute or local rule;
- \_\_\_ 10. The form and substance of the pretrial order;
- \_\_\_ 11. The disposition of pending motions;
- \_\_\_ 12. The need for adopting special procedures for managing potentially difficult or protracted actions that may involve complex issues, multiple parties, difficult legal questions, or unusual proof

problems;

\_\_\_\_ 13. An order for a separate trial pursuant to Rule 42(b) with respect to a claim, counterclaim, cross-claim, or third-party claim, or with respect to any particular issue in the case;

\_\_\_\_ 14. An order directing a party or parties to present evidence early in the trial with respect to a manageable issue that could, on the evidence, be the basis for a judgment as a matter of law under Rule 50(a) or a judgment on partial findings under Rule 52(c);

\_\_\_\_ 15. An order establishing a reasonable limit on the time allowed for presenting evidence, and

\_\_\_\_ 16. Such other matters as may facilitate the just, speedy, and inexpensive disposition of the action.

**At least one of the attorneys for each party participating in any conference before trial shall have authority to enter into stipulations and to make admissions regarding all matters that the participants may reasonably anticipate may be discussed. If appropriate, the court may require that a party or its representative be present or reasonably available by telephone in order to consider possible settlement of the dispute.**